

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) A media distribution apparatus that includes a server and that selectively distributes views comprising original media of content and a preview summarizing the content to an external client terminal connected via a network, the media distribution apparatus comprising:

a storer that stores the views, and first metadata for explaining the views, the first metadata comprising a plurality of segments and describing ~~at least one set of~~ viewpoint information ~~and priority of the viewpoint information~~, and time information, ~~the at least one set of~~ the viewpoint information ~~and the priority of the viewpoint information~~, and the time information being assigned on a segment-by-segment basis, the viewpoint information comprising a keyword included in the first metadata for explaining the content;

a request receiver that receives a distribution request from ~~[[a]]~~ the external client terminal, the distribution request including identification information that identifies the content, at least one ~~set of the~~ viewpoint information for extracting segments of the first metadata, comprising the keyword included in the first metadata for explaining the content ~~and the priority of the viewpoint information~~, information that indicates one of a media distribution request and a preview distribution request, and desired time

information that is ~~input~~ desired by a user of the external client terminal, the identification information and the at least one ~~set of the~~ viewpoint information and the ~~priority of the viewpoint information~~ being selected from list information that is distributed in advance, the list information comprising the identification information of the content, a set plurality of the viewpoint information and the ~~priority of the viewpoint information of the content~~ assigned to each segment making up the first metadata, and playback time information of the content;

a request analyzer that determines whether the distribution request received by the request receiver is the media distribution request or the preview distribution request for the content;

a media extractor/generator that, when the received distribution request is determined to be the preview distribution request, extracts, from the first metadata, a plurality of segments for making up the preview and adapted to the at least one ~~set of the~~ viewpoint information and the ~~priority of the viewpoint information~~ included in the received preview distribution request with respect to content corresponding to the identification information included in the received preview distribution request, and dynamically generates the preview having a time length corresponding to the desired time information included in the received preview distribution request, by fixing a plurality of segments as second metadata so as to have the time length corresponding to the desired time information, using the time information assigned to the extracted plurality of segments, and combining the views stored in the storer corresponding to the plurality of segments fixed as the second metadata, the second metadata being different from the first metadata; and

a media transmitter that transmits the generated preview to the external client terminal.

41. (Canceled)

42. (Previously Presented) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, further comprising a charger that does not charge for the preview or charges according to a length of the generated preview.

43. (Currently Amended) A media distribution method in a media distribution apparatus that includes a server, for selectively distributing views comprising original media of content and a preview summarizing the content to an external client terminal connected via a network, the media distribution method comprising:

storing the views, and first metadata for explaining the views, the first metadata comprising a plurality of segments and describing ~~at least one set of~~ viewpoint information ~~and a priority of the viewpoint information~~, and time information, the ~~at least one set of~~ viewpoint information ~~and the priority of the viewpoint information~~, and the time information being assigned on a segment-by-segment basis, the viewpoint information comprising a keyword included in the first metadata for explaining the content;

receiving a distribution request from ~~[[a]]~~ the client terminal, the distribution request including identification information that identifies the content, at least one ~~set of~~ the viewpoint information for extracting segments of the first data, comprising the keyword included in the first metadata for explaining the content ~~and the priority of the~~

~~viewpoint information~~, information that indicates one of a media distribution request and a preview distribution request, and desired time information that is input desired by a user of the external client terminal, the identification information and the at least one ~~set of the~~ viewpoint information ~~and the priority of the viewpoint information~~ being selected from list information that is distributed in advance, the list information comprising the identification information of the content, a set plurality of the viewpoint information ~~and the priority of the viewpoint information of the content~~ assigned to each segment making up the first metadata, and playback time information of the content;

determining whether the distribution request received from the external client terminal is the media distribution request or the preview distribution request for the content;

when the distribution request received from the external client terminal is determined to be the preview distribution request, extracting, from the first metadata, a plurality of segments making up the preview and adapted to the at least one ~~set of the~~ viewpoint information ~~and the priority of the viewpoint information~~ included in the received preview distribution request with respect to content corresponding to the identification information included in the received preview distribution request, and dynamically generating the preview having a time length corresponding to the desired time information included in the received preview distribution request, by fixing a plurality of segments as second metadata so as to have the time length corresponding to the desired time information, using the time information assigned to the extracted plurality of segments, and combining the views stored in the storer corresponding to the plurality of segments fixed as the second metadata, the second metadata being different from the first metadata; and

transmitting the generated preview to the external client terminal.

44. (Canceled)

45. (Previously Presented) The media distribution method according to claim 43, further comprising not charging for the generated preview or charging according to a length of the generated preview.

46. (Previously Presented) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, wherein viewpoint options are displayed to a user prior to generating the preview.

47. (Previously Presented) The media distribution method according to claim 43, further comprising displaying viewpoint options to a user prior to generating the preview.

48. (Cancelled).

49. (Previously Presented) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the storer stores a plurality of metadata for a content.

50. (Previously Presented) The media distribution apparatus according to claim 40, wherein the generated preview is cached according to a frequency of access to a corresponding content.

51. (Cancelled)

52. (Previously Presented) The media distribution method according to claim 43, wherein a plurality of metadata are stored for a content.

53. (Previously Presented) The media distribution method according to claim 43, further comprising caching the generated preview according to a frequency of access to a corresponding content.

54. (Currently Amended) A media distribution apparatus that selectively distributes views comprising original media of content and a preview summarizing the content to an external client terminal connected via a network, the media distribution apparatus comprising:

a server that includes the views and first metadata for explaining the views, the first metadata comprising a plurality of segments, each segment comprising ~~at least one set of viewpoint information and priority of the viewpoint information~~, and time information, the viewpoint information being a keyword included in the metadata that explains the views;

wherein the server receives, from ~~[[a]]~~ the external client terminal, a distribution request comprising content identification information, at least one ~~set of keyword and priority of the keyword~~, information indicating a media distribution request or a preview distribution request, and a time period set by the external client terminal for the preview to be generated by the server,

wherein the content identification information and the at least one ~~set of~~ keyword ~~and priority of the keyword~~ are selected by the external client terminal from list information distributed in advance,

wherein the list information comprises the content identification information, a set ~~plurality of keyword and priority of the keyword~~ keywords assigned to each segment making up the first metadata, and content playback time,

wherein the sever determines whether the received distribution request is the media distribution request or the preview distribution request, and

wherein the server, when the received distribution request is determined to be the preview distribution request, extracts, from the first metadata, segments having a ~~set of~~ viewpoint information ~~and priority of the viewpoint information~~ corresponding to the at least one ~~set of~~ keyword ~~and priority of the keyword~~ selected by the external client terminal, generates the preview having the set time period by fixing a plurality of segments as second metadata using the time information and linking the views corresponding to the segments fixed as the second metadata, the second metadata being different from the first metadata, and transmits the generated preview to the external client terminal.